Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota is known for its strong family traditions—family farms, family businesses, and family vacations; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper for families to come together to share their experiences, exchange their life's stories and dreams, build life-long relationships, and discover their roots; and,

Whereas, In 1881, Jens Tomesius Jensen immigrated to the United States from Rensfjeld, Norway, and made his way to Dakota Territory to establish a homestead; and,

Whereas, On July 3, 1886, Jens paid $200 for a 160 acre claim in the NE ¼ of Section 7, Township 112, Range 54, in Kingsbury County, South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Jens and his bride, Ida J. Everson, were married on July 12, 1888, in De Smet, South Dakota, and to that union 13 children were born, and from the many descendants of this couple, one continues to live on the homestead; and,

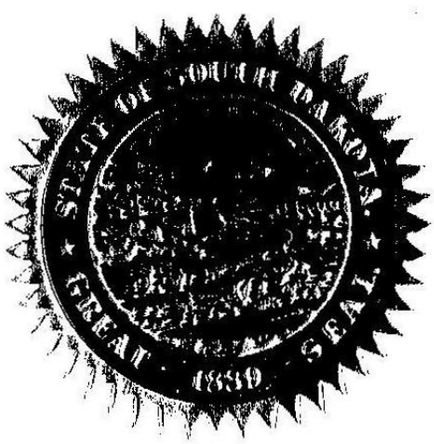
Whereas, This truly devoted family has been gathering every other year since the early 1960s in order to "keep the lines of communication open," to share the pleasure and rewards of each others company, and to celebrate their lives and love for one another, and,

Whereas, On June 20, 2009, the final Jensen Family Reunion will be held in Lake Preston, South Dakota, with a number of third, forth, fifth, and sixth generation descendants attending, many making their first trip to South Dakota:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 20, 2009, as

JENSEN FAMILY REUNION DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this First Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds

Attest:

Teresa J. Bray, Deputy

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State